

Senate Bill No. 1526

CHAPTER 723

An act to add Section 715 to the Public Resources Code, relating to forest resources.

[Approved by Governor September 23, 2004. Filed
with Secretary of State September 23, 2004.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1526, Hollingsworth. Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: pilots: certification.

Existing law establishes the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection within the Resources Agency and makes the department responsible for the fire protection, fire prevention, maintenance, and enhancement of the state's forest, range, and brushland resources, contract fire protection, associated emergency services, and assistance in civil disasters and other nonfire emergencies.

This bill would require the department, in cooperation with the Office of Emergency Services, to develop a program to certify active duty military pilots to engage in firefighting in the state.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) Active military personnel and equipment are located in areas that can provide immediate fire response to assist local efforts during equipment shortages or widespread disasters.

(b) The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection provides valuable assistance in coordinating emergency air response efforts.

(c) It is necessary to ensure that all available personnel and equipment in this state are immediately available to protect the life and property of the residents of this state.

(d) It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, in cooperation with the Office of Emergency Services, work with the active military to certify pilots and equipment for firefighting efforts in this state.

SEC. 2. Section 715 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

715. The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, in cooperation with the Office of Emergency Services, shall develop a program to certify active duty military pilots to engage in firefighting in the state.

